(c) if so, what is Government's reaction to these representations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) A circular was issued in 1993 itself to institutes training candidates for C.O.P. Examinations, informing of the need for introduction of GMDSS Certificates and Government's intention to implement the same.

Establishment of an Asian Economic Community

1553. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a national seminar on globalisation held in New Delhi on 21st December, 1994 a unanimous demand was made for constitution of an Asian Economic Community to strengthen trade and economic ties; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government and the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Media reports about the seminar referred to by the Honourable Members have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) The Government is in favour of strengthening economic and trade cooperation among the Asian countries through bilateral, regional and multilateral mechanisms. However, no proposal with regard to formation of an Asian Economic Community is presently under Government's consideration.

Setting up of Scrap Management Group

1554. SHRI K.M. KHAN:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scrap management group has been set up in the Railway Board to monitor disposal of scrap;

(b) whether the railways have maximised their income by disposing off its scrap material;

(c) if so, the details of venue earned during the last three years, Zone-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is attached. *(See below)*

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Setting up of Scrap Management Group

Revenue earnings from scrap disposal zone-wise during the last three years are given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

Railway	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Central	101.72	110.52	115.72
Eastern	89.03	95.65	117.10
Northern	117.56	134.63	180.21
North Eastern	21.44	32.12	42.68
Northeast Frontier	14.02	21.86	25.61
Southern	57.37	97.36	135.31
South Central	75.35	103.66	116.37
South Eastern	87.02	106.33	120.89
Western	90.16	109.81	121.10
Total	653.67	811.94	974.99
Production Units	25.27	37.74	42.76
Grand Total	678.94	849.68	1017.75

मंत्री के विवेकाधीन कोटे के अंतर्गत पेट्रोल पंपों और गैस एजेंसियों का आवंटन

1555. श्री रामजी लाल: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत दो वर्षों में सरकार द्वारा मंत्री के विवेकाधीन कोटे के अन्तर्गत कितने पेट्रोल पम्प, गैस एजेंसियां तथा गैस कनेक्शन जारी किए गए

(ख) गांवों और शहरों में उनका कितना-कितना आवंटन हुआ,

(ग) क्या सरकार ने गत तीन वर्षों में संसद सदस्यों को भी उनके अपने-अपने कोटे के अलावा उपर्युक्त आवंटन के लिए चुना है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका संसद सदस्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा): (क) से (घ) वर्ष 1993-94 और 1994-95 के दौरान सरकार की विवेकाधीन शक्तियों के अंतर्गत अनुकंपा आधार पर 133 खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र डीलरशिपें और 118 एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपें आबंटित की गई हैं। मात्रा-दूरी के मानकों के आधार पर एच एस डी और एम एस की बढ़ती हुई मांग को पूरा करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय और राज्य राजमार्गों पर खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र खोले जाते हैं। एल पी जी डिस्ट्रब्यूटरशिपों को खोलने के लिए 20,000 और इससे अधिक की जनसंख्या वाले बाजारों की पहचान की जाती है और व्यवहार्यता के आधार पर नई डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपों को चालू किया जाता है। खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्रों और एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपों को चालू करने तथा एल पी जी कनेक्शन जारी करने की शहरवार और गांव-वार सूचना नहीं रखी जाती। सरकार के स्वविवेक पर आवश्यक और योग्य मामलों के अंतर्गत कुछ मामलों में व्यक्तियों के अनुरोधों और जनता के प्रतिनिधियों, सरकारी कार्यकारियों तथा लोक व सामाजिक कार्यकर्ताओं व संसद-सदस्यों तथा भूतपूर्व संसद सदस्यों सहित गणमान्य व्यक्तियों की सिफारिशों के आधार पर सरकार द्वारा 1993 में 24,741 तथा 1994 में 84,563 घरेलू एल पी जी कनेक्शन मंजूर किए गए।

Scarcity of Potable Water in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1556. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is general scarcity of potable water in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the ever increasing requirement for potable water due to the increase in the population of the Islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Scarcity of water is felt in some villages during the summer months in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(b) The Andman & Nicobar Islands Administration is augmenting the water sources and also creating additional sources for meeting the potable water requirements of the people.

Scarcity of Containers at Paradip Port

1557. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the servere scarcity of containers at Paradip Port in Orissa;

(b) whether the shortage has adversely affected export in the port;

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure sufficient containers for that port;

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The Pardip Port does not handle any container and hence the question of ""scarcity of containers" at this Port does not arise.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

LPG Distributorship in the Towns of Madhya Pradesh

1558. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey of the towns having a population of twenty thousand and above in the State of Madhya Pradesh but having no LPG distributorship therein to supply cooking gas to the inhabitants;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to conduct such a survey and open LPG distributorship in each of such towns in Madhya Pradesh in the near future;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to make LPG available to the citizens of such towns in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA):